

WILKINSBURG BOROUGH
Planning Session
January 2, 2013

CALL TO ORDER

President Cohn called the meeting to order at approximately 6:35 PM in Council Chambers, second floor of the Municipal building, 605 Ross Ave., Wilkinsburg, PA.

ROLL CALL

The roll was called to establish a quorum. Present were Mr. Lefebvre, Ms. Evans, Ms. Trice, Ms. Goodman, Ms. Macklin (via telephone), and President Cohn. Marla P. Marcinko, Borough Manager was also present. Ms. Ervin, Ms. Moore, Ms. McCarthy-Johnson and Mayor John Thompson were absent. A quorum was established.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Following the pledge of allegiance, a moment of silence was observed to remember victims of violent crime.

President Cohn welcomed everyone and expressed his hope for a positive and productive 2013.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was received.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Chief Coleman distributed a flyer to Council members for the upcoming Wilkinsburg Police Department Public Safety Forum scheduled for Monday, January 7, 2013, 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Ethnan Temple Church, 1205 Wood Street.

GENERAL MATTERS

- 1. Adopting Ordinance No. 2900 – Establishing Handicap Parking Space – 396 Center St.**

Moved: Ms. Trice

Second: Ms. Goodman

All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

President Cohn suggested a brief discussion on the RFP process for delinquent tax collection. He suggested defining goals and objectives for a collector over the coming weeks.

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Ms. Goodman suggested looking at the collection charges for real estate taxes and MSF. Ms. Trice suggested using a local collector so residents could visit the collector in their office. Ms. Macklin commented on having a collector that can pursue acquisition of property and can utilize tools available through Act 45 and Act 90. Ms. Evans reminded Council to consider the relationship with the Wilkinsburg School District relative to tax collection and the need to work together. She suggested that District officials be included in this discussion. President Cohn commented that the collector must be willing to forgive fees as part of the tax compromise program. President Cohn suggested having a draft RFP by the end of the month.

President Cohn requested that goals and objectives for 2013 be sent via email or brought to the next meeting.

Vanessa McCarthy-Johnson arrived at 6:47 p.m.

Ms. Evans informed Council about a public meeting on January 9, 2013 at 5:30 p.m. to discuss the proposed referendum to allow liquor licenses in the Borough. Ms. Macklin inquired as to who was sponsoring the meeting. President Cohn advised that it is a Borough meeting. Ms. Macklin requested statistical data to support the action and information regarding the ability of the measure to attract investment. She requested the information prior to the meeting. Ms. Evans stated that she would resend the information she had previously forwarded to Council members and is hoping to have a representative from the PLCB in attendance to respond to questions and concerns.

President Cohn informed Council that there may be an executive session after the next meeting.

Ms. Evans commented about the Penn State Cooperative Extension vacant lot project and advised Council that the plans and drawings are on the WCDC's website.

ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business, on motion by Ms. Evans, second by Ms. Goodman, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:55 P.M.

Jason Cohn, Council President